

The

# 65

# BRUTUS BULLETIN

ET TU, BRUTE

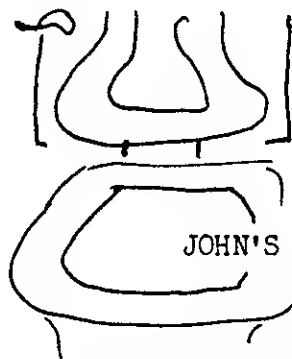
The BRUTUS BULLETIN is a newsletter of postal Diplomacy<sup>tm</sup> brought out every few weeks by John Michalski ("mih-HOLL-skee"), Rt 10 Box 526-Q, Moore, OK 73165. Subs are available at the rate of 12/\$5, 12/\$4 for resubs. There may be openings yet in Bob Osuch's subzine PERILS OF PAULINA, \$4 flat fee, no sub, 2 week deadlines, black press. Write Bob at 3417 S Paulina, Chicago, IL 60608. Steve Heinowski also has a fast game open. But that's about it. BB is dedicated to fast games, black press, and a wide open letters column. Contributions of all sorts are encouraged and appreciated. DIPLOMACY is a game invented by Allan Calhamer and copyrighted by the Avalon Hill Game Company, Baltimore, MD 21214.

TRIVIA SECTION: I'm preparing this way ahead of time this issue, so all the unimportant stuff comes first. ENVELOPES: I'd thought and hoped that most of the old labelled envelopes would be gone by now, but new ones keep turning up. Some are SO old (from the musty dungeons of Lease Records Section) that they have an imprinted 10¢, a metered 3¢ update, and then licked stamps to bring the postage up to 1980 rates. Makes for quite a picture for those of you who got them, hey? Now I've come across some from outside, defunct outfits with 13¢ imprinted, plus some blank letterhead envelopes from defunct subsidiaries, so these 'wierdies will be coming your way for a while yet. The company wouldn't use these of course, but hell, I'm not proud. WEATHER: This week before Memorial Day has been rainy here, a big break. I don't plan to have to use the air conditioner until mid June (hope, hope). Spring came on time (February) and this summer has been a pleasant cool one. This past weekend we got hit by a hailstorm that ate up trees, did some damage to our cars, wiped out the garden, and broke three windows. Some folks across the street had their roofs really wiped out, though, while we got off pretty light by comparison. All the rain and ice collapsed a lot of the mole tunnels in the yard too; I hope a bunch drowned. DRINKS: Locally, Shasta sodapop is selling at either 4/99¢ (cans) or 6/\$1.29, and being a non-major brand, they have some flavors instead of just cola-7up-Dr Pepper stuff. A little experimenting has shown that Black Cherry soda with any light Canadian blend makes a very pleasant drink, but an even better one is cream soda with brandy. When I lived in Milwaukee, cream soda was always brown. Here it is usually red, although the Shasta stuff is beer-color, and I once saw an obscure brand that was turquoise in color! Anyone have any green or black cream soda in your area?

LAST ISSUE was slightly overweight, but apparently passed OK. With two long sheets, 10 sheets should be the maximum ever, but that time I was forced to go 11. Eleven is fine if they're all short. If you ever get a postage-due issue, send me the envelope face and I'll credit your sub or make an adjustment for you.

FOR SALE: One stationery box full of assorted dipzines received, about a 2½" stack, postpaid to you for \$3.50. Also, a handfull of assorted wargame zines, no Generals or S&Ts, \$2, ppd, both sent at book rate. Write editor. YOUR AD here free!

MAILING LIST: Earlier I offered to send a copy to anyone who wanted one, on ready-to-go labels even, but have had only 2 takers. No one want to fake a BB? Darn. Anyone wanting help in getting some labels for a fake of someone ELSE's zine, let me know. All inquiries held in confidence. This hobby needs more fakes, as long as they're not of VOLKERWANDERUNG.



JOHN'S NOTES

Windfall profits tax really has us hopping, or perhaps 'shovelling' would be a better term. The government seems to have used this program as a prelude to nationalization, as the entire program is all but unmanageable. NO one's returns are going to be accurate—by definition, they almost canNOT be—so whenever they're ready, all they'll have to do is wag fingers and say, 'Aha, you're all crooks' and take the industry over just to help you, John Q Citizen, out. Just like they passed this tax on you, to help you out. Keep voting straight Demo folks and it will keep on comin'. Sho nuff, y'all.

DON'T FORGET to vote soon in another election coming on even faster. June is it for

### The Fourth Annual North American Zine and Gamesmaster Poll:

If you receive, or have received during the last year, a Diplomacy publication published in North America, you are eligible to participate in the Zine Poll. Give each zine you receive a rating on a scale of 0-10 (no fractions, please), with 10 being the best possible rating and 0 the worst possible. (It is not necessary that one zine you receive be given a 10 and another a 0; just assign each one a number of whatever size between 0 and 10. Do not give your favourite zine a 10 and your least favourite a 0 as a matter of course only. I mention these only because some people have done this in the past.) It is not necessary to explain to me your rationale for each rating; it'll never be printed or, probably, read. You may use whatever subjective criterion you wish to arrive at your rating.

If you are playing in a postal Diplomacy or Dip variant game, or have done so within the past year, you are eligible to participate in the Gamesmaster Poll. Give the GM a rating on a scale of 0 to 10, similarly to your rating in the Zine Poll. The GM should be rated by name; a GM rating where the zine only is named will not be counted. ((a) Some zines use guest GMs; I don't know which, nor do I always know such GGM's name; (b) I don't know the names of all zines and publishers any more.)

Only votes which follow the above format will be counted; deviations will be ignored. (It always fascinates me what inventive screwups people manage to come up with!) Unsigned ballots will not be counted.

Sign your ballot to avoid duplication (but your votes will be kept in strictest confidence). Indicate some way in which you participate in the hobby, eg.: player in \_\_\_\_\_, subscriber to \_\_\_\_\_, publisher of \_\_\_\_\_, specified hobby functionary, etc.

Any hobby participant anywhere in the world is eligible to participate; however, please vote only for North American zines and GMs.

Send entries to me, before the end of June. (The deadline will be followed strictly.) Last year, 72 valid ballots were received. Let's increase that total; we're still nowhere near the British hobby's total of several years ago!

A. John R. Leeder, 121 19th Ave. NE, Calgary, Alta.,  
Canada T2E 1N9

Do try to get your vote in. Tretick has about 8 for himself, as Leeder is too removed from the active hobby to throw his ringers out (10% of last year's vote), so get those real votes in. New Pubbers esp like some recognition, ~~not just me~~. And don't forget to vote for all those you haven't seen in a while.

A zine published by Jack Frost  
In this issue: 1980 AQ

FRENCH VINEYARDS FALL;  
SO DOES AUSTRIA, RUSSIA.

Fall 1903: ITALY retreats F Ion-TYN

Winter 1903: AUSTRIA disbands F Adr, A Ser (NDR)

ENGLAND disbands F Dem

FRANCE builds A MAR

ITALY builds A BOM

TURKEY builds A GON

Spring 1904:

AUSTRIA (Shaffer): NMR, A ALB holds; A Bud holds, dislodged, retreat to Galer disband

ENGLAND (Howe): P NTH-Bel; P ION-Eng; P Eng-MID; A PAR sup Gar A Mux-Bar

FRANCE (Pillant): A HIR-Bar; A BEL sup A Mar-Bar; P BRE-Eng; F NWY-Nth; P Lpl-GLY; A Spa-GAS

GERMANY (Henry): A Mux-BUR; A Boh-MUN; P Swe-DEN; P HER hold; A KIE sup F Bar

ITALY (Mitchell): F Tyn-GOL; A Tri-BUD; A VIE sup A Tri-Bud; A Ven-PIE; A Rem-VEN; P Nap-ROM

RUSSIA (Benthorn): A SIL-Bar; F BAL sup A Sil-Bar; A STP sup Fw F Nwy

TURKEY (Michelski): A Cox-RUM; F BLA cox A Cox-Rum; A Gre-SER; A Gel-WAR; A Lvn-MOS; F Ion-TUN; F Aeg-ION

The gossip in this game: Fluff is miffed over last season, Gary is looking for a friend, Dave must have said something really bad, Mike's nail is later than Nathan's, whose nail was early this week, Tom still doesn't know my address, and Jean's late gamester programming. What'll it be next Saturday, May 24, when these some people will have submitted their Fall 1904 orders by noon?

#### PRESS

GON-STP: I really do mean "good luck" vs. EG. I hope you make some gains to offset what I have to take for my war. I'm willing to help you to the end, but, "charity begins at home" and "first things first" and all that.

A zine published by Jack Frost  
In this issue: 1980 S

#### GERMANY SUFFERS NMR ATTACK!

Winter, 1903: England builds A LON; France r F Tyn-WES; Italy NMR, F Speed r OTB; Russia

Spring 1904: r F STP OTB; Turkey builds F SMY

AUSTRIA (Siegewski): F Adr-VEN; A TER sup A Vie; A VIE sup A Tri-Bud; A Tri-BUD

ENGLAND (Becker): P DEN-Bal; F Sko-NTH; A Swe-FIN; A Nwy-SWE; F Bar-NWY; A LON holds

FRANCE (Beumeister): F Mid-BRE; A Par-BUR; A MAR sup A Par-Bur; A SPA sup A Mar F Wee-Gel, dislodged, retreat to NAF, or Mid, or disband

GERMANY (Liddell): A MUN; A RUH; A PIG F ENG, hold; A Bur holds, dislodged, retreat to Bel, Cox, or disband (NMR)

ITALY (Shaffer): A ROM, F GOL hold (NMR)

RUSSIA (Michalski): A Fin-STP; A Gel-RUM; A Boh-GAL; F Rum-SEV; F BAL-Ben

TURKEY (Osnoch): F Say-AEG; F Ion-NAP; A APV sup P Ion-Nap; F Tyn-WES; F TUN sup F Tyn-Wes; A Gre-SER; A BUL sup A Gre-Ser

The fireworks continue Tuesday, May 27, 1980.

HUNGARY-MOSCOW: What will you do?

SERBIA-AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Chew on that you slimy pig!

SWEDEN: Make that RAR, SM.

ION-ROM: Your pal NMR is a great leader. I wish I was fighting against him.

BUR-PAR: Lendehark!

? Dear Kaiser I fe and your F'03 move A Priok-Breast highly causing, and F Eng sup- oh boy have you got late to learn.

PAR-ROM: A Dog with disease/ King of the 'alonsac'/ Put your money where your mouth is/ Mr Know All/ Was the fin on your book part of the deal?

GON-LON: My feet fetish is nothing compared to your penis envy.

PARIS-PARIS IMITATOR: Hah! In the interest of printing the whole story, I hereby recite the entire song which has been unjustly reproduced by a vicious plagiarist. (Ed. note: There now follows "Death on two Legs (Dedicated to...)".)

Unfortunately, I can't read parts of it, so no "whole story" today....

PARIS-ROM: Correction: I'm really "Death BETWEEN two Legs", so you well know.

MOSCOW: Anyone can laugh off the out-of-type stuff directed at Uli, but this new tactic of quoting lyrics from songs is a bit much.

A zine published by Jack Frost  
In this issue: 1980 AQ

Spring 1904: AUSTRIA retreats A Bud-GAL

Fall 1904:

AUSTRIA (Sheffer): A GAL-Vie; A ALB-Tri

ENGLAND (Howe): P NTH-Edi; P LON-Nth; P Mid-POH; A PAR-Bre

FRANCE (Pillant): A GAS-Bre; P CLY-Edi; A BEL-Hol; A Mar holds, dislodged,

retreat, Spa, or disband; F Bre-MID; P NWY sup Rus P Bel-Swe

GERMANY (Henry): P BER holds; F DEN-Swe; A KIE-Hol; A BUR-Bel; A MUN sup F Ber

ITALY (Mitchell): A Bud-Tri, dislodged, destroyed; A VIE-Bud; P ROM-Nap;

F GOL sup A Pic-Mar; A Pic-MAR; A Ven-PIE

RUSSIA (Benthorn): A Stp-PIN; F Bal-SWE; A SIL-Mun

TURKEY (Michelski): A Bum-BUD; A SER sup A Rum-Bud; A MOS sup A War; P BLA holds

A WAR sup A Mos; P TUN holds; P ION-Nap

Supply Center Chart for 1904:

NET COUNTRY CENTERS

0

-2 AUSTRIA Edi, Edi

4

0 ENGLAND Edi, Lon, Wey, Par, POR

5

0 or -1 FRANCE Bre, Wey, Spa, Wey, Bel, Lpl, Nwy

5

0 GERMANY Bsr, Kie, Bol, Wey, Mun, OEN

6

+1 ITALY Wey, Bom, Ven, Tun, Vie, Tri, MAR

2

-1 RUSSIA Wey, Stp, Wey, SWE

12

+5 TURKEY Ank, Con, Smy, Bul, Rum, Sev, Grs, BUO, MOS, SER, TUN, WAR

Due to mechanical problems beyond my control, this issue of GO is late. Deadline for this game is therefore now June 2, 1980 a Tuesday. Sorry. Press is carried over, as this is a borrowed typewriter.

A zine published by Jack Frost  
In this issue: 1979 HE

Fall 1912: ITALY disbands A MAR

IS THERE NO END?

Winter 1912: ENGLAND builds F LON

ITALY builds F NAP

Spring 1913:

AUSTRIA (Kador): A Rum-BUL; A SER sup A Rum-Bul; F EAS-Aeg; A SEV-Rum; A WAR holds; A MOS sup A War

ENGLAND (Howe): A Kie-PRU; A MUN sup Rus A Sil; A RUH sup A Mun; F Lon-NTH; A Wal-LON; A Gaa-BRE; A Mar-OAS; F Spa-MAR; A BUR sup F Spa-Mar; F Mid-SPA(sc); F POR sup F Mid-Spa(sc); F Iri-MID; F ENG sup F Iri-Mid

ITALY (McMahon): F Wee-GOL; F Tun-WES; F NAF sup F Tun-Wee; F NAP-Ion; A Tyr-PIE; A Boh-TYR

RUSSIA (Michalski): P Bal-SWE; A SIL-War; A LVN sup A Sil-War; F Gob-STP

TURKEY (Osnoch): F GRE-Ion; F AEG sup F Gre-Ion; A Bul sup F Bla-Rum, dislodged, retreat Con or disband; F BLA-Rum; A Smy-ARM

As you certainly have noticed, not only is this issue late, but it is also on a different typewriter. My typewriter fell apart (literally), this one is from a library. Deadline is set for Friday, June 6, at noon. Sorry for any inconvenience.

#### PRESS

EDMOND-LOGPORT: I got your lunch all ready.

GON-BUO: Ger-hyuk, ger-hyuk! Duh! Which way did dey go Jorj? Which way did dey go?

GON-BUO: It's gront 'til it happens to you, eh? Enjoy, suckers, enjoy.

GON: Sultan Osnoch, vacationing on his yacht GON-GRATS I, reportedly netted a 165 lb North American Kador, a scavenger of the carp family. The fish was immediately thrown back, as the Sultan explained, "It's ugly, inedible & generally good for nothing."

# 79 Nid Wrap up

The Second Blind Madman Game Ends

Oct 19, 1979-May 21, 1980

Austria (Frost) A Ven-TRI; A Bud-SER; A RUM S A Bud-Ser; A GAL-War; F BULsc-Con

England (Shurtleff): F IRI-Lvp; F SWE & F STPnc S A Nwy; A NWY S F Swe

France (Howe): A MUN S A BER S A Mun; A DEN-Swe; A Bel-EDI; F NTH C, A YOR & F NWG S  
A Bel-Edi; F Eng-MID; F LVP, A NAP H; F TYN S A Nap; A ROM S A Tus-Ven; A Tus-  
VEN; F TUN-Ion; F GLyo-MAR

Italy (Palter) F SMY-Con; A GRE-Bul; A Ser S A Gre-Bul/d/r Alb, Otb

Russia (CD) F Sev H/ann.; A WAR, A UKR H

Turkey (Shaffer): F BLA S A Arm-Sev; A Arm-SEV; F AEG-Ion

1907 A: Home ~~Yen~~ Rum Bul SER 6 even  
E: ~~Edi~~ Nwy Swe StP 3 -1  
F: Home Spa Por Bel Hol  
Kie Mun Ber Lon Lvp  
Tun Rom Den EDI NAP VEN 18 +3, wins  
I: ~~Nap~~ Gre ~~Sev~~ SMY 2 -1  
R: Mos War ~~Sev~~ 2 1 ann., even  
T: Ank Smy Con SEV 3 even  
34

Final Season PRESS:

Capri-Edinburgh: We have died together.  
my only holdings in Italy being  
Capri and Elba

Elba-Venice: OK, genius, so now you've  
brought France into the Med, giving  
him Tun, Rom, and Nap. Of course  
he'll now disengage and pull west-  
wards, dragging his armies behind  
him.

Elba-Turkey & Russia: Where ARE you?

	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
Austria	5	5	6	5	5	6	6
England	4	5	6*	5	5	4	3
France	4	7	9	11	14	15	18
Germany	5	5	2	1	0	-	
Italy	4	3	4	6	3	3	2
Russia	6	6	5	4	3	3	2
Turkey	4	3	2	2	4	3	3
Neutral	2	0					

Austria: Jack Frost

England: Robert Shurtleff

France: Gary Howe, WON FO7

Germany: (Madman), out FO5

Italy: Daniel Scott Palter

Russia: Monty Hayner, dro F 04, CD

Turkey: Bill Shaffer

Zine: BRUTUS BULLETIN GM: John Michalski

## SOME GM COMMENTARY

The one surprising thing is that everyone who started and played through, survived. Mr Hayner seems to have left the hobby, as he NMRed out of some other BB games at the same time as his drop here. He and the madman are the only ones out, and even his CD Russia is still there.

Gary got a big break when the Madman turned east in full force early, and never returned. He had no organized resistance after his 1902 stab of England, and there seems to be little or no correspondence in blind games (here or elsewhere), so the steamroller rolled on.

Endgame comments will follow, as will a full blow-by-blow history. I won't be starting any more of these, though. I'm a little disappointed at the results, really.

J.M.

# 79IZ

MAY 19 1980

## MANY MOVES, FEW CHANGES

Summer, 1906: Aus A Gal r BUD; Ger A Ukr r WAR

### FALL, 1906:

AUSTRIA (Guajardo): A BUD S A Vie; A TYO S A Vie; A VIE S A Tyo  
 ENGLAND (Osuch): F NTH H; F NAO S F Gas-Mid; F Gas-MID; F ENG C A Wal-Pic;  
 A Wal-PIC; A Par-BUR; A Bre-GAS; F SPAsc S F Mid-Wes;  
 F Mid-WES  
 FRANCE (Fuchs): A MAR-Spa  
 GERMANY (Howe): F HOL, F BAL H; A Gal-UKR; A MOS & A WAR S A Gal-Ukr; A LVN  
 S A Mos; A Sil-GAL; A BOH-Vie; A MUN-Tyo  
 ITALY (Palter): A PIE S AUSTRIAN A Tyo; F Tyn-GLYO; F Ion-TYN; F NAF H  
 TURKEY (McCarty): "A Mos S A Ukr"/NSU; A **SEV** Unordered, H; A Ukr S A Rum/ann.;  
 A RUM S A Ukr; F BLA S A Rum; A Ser-ALB; A Bul-SER;  
 F GRE S F Aeg-Ion; F Aeg-ION

Heading towards 1907 with 6 active players; hmmm. Let's see what Winter, 1906 and SPRING, 1907 with my mail received at work MONDAY, JUNE 2, 1980. Press follows 1906.

1906: (Same as 1905)

A: Home	3	even
E: Home Nwy Den Par Bre Por Spa	9	even
F: Mar	1	even
I: Home Tun	4	even
T: Home Bul Gre Rum Ser Sev	8	1 ann., build 1
Oops! G: Home Hol Bel Swe StP War Mos	<u>9</u>	even
	34	

Italy - Austria & Turkey: So far, so good.

CON: As we say in the Bible Belt, a stalemate is better than none!

CON-LON: Better think before you press forward; our galleys have been equipped with heavy duty oars and we speak Italian.

LON: Prime Minister Osuch announced the formation of a counter organization to rebut SEETO, named AKE (Ass Kickers of Europe). The Prime Minister commented that "Ake will put the hurts on" the southern alliance. First on the agenda would be drowning the French army in the Gulf of Lyon, explained the PM, with the second order of business being the beheading of the Pope.

RADIO FREE EUROPE: No maeesges-- we have been burnt to the ground by angry German homosexuals and envious would-be punsters and limerick composers.

CON-BER: Better play with Bertha a while; that will be the only movement you'll see for a long time.

CON-ROM: Sailing, sailing, over the bounding main; many an English ship shall sink, ere we come home again...

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

GAME OPENING: John Masters puts out a warehouse flyer called BLACK FROG that to date has carried and concluded one orphan. He is now adopting another, and plans to open one regular game. Full details available in June, he says, which should be when you get this. Write 25711 N Vista Fairways Drive, Valencia, CA 91355

# 80 D

MAY 28 1980

EVERYONE'S STILL TRYING. NOT REALLY MIDGAME YET...

SPRING, 1905:

Winter, 1904: English F Bre r ENG; French A Bur r OTB, builds F MAR; Italy builds F VEN; Russia builds A STP; Turkey builds A SMY

ENGLAND (Mitchell):

F Mid-BRE; A PIC & F ENG S F Mid-Bre; F IRI-Mid; F Nwy-STP

FRANCE (Johnson):

A Bre-Par/ann.; F POR S F Gas-Mid; F Gas-MID;  
F Spasc-WES; F Mar-SPAsc

GERMANY (Cummings):

F BAL S A Pru; A PRU S A Sil-War; A SIL-War; A BUR-Par;  
A RUH-Bur; A MUN S A Ruh-Bur

ITALY (Grabar):

F Nap-ION; F TYN S F Nap-Ion; F Ven-ADR; A Bud-SER;  
A TRI S A Bud-Ser; A VIE-Gal

RUSSIA (Chatfield):

A StP-FIN; F Lvn-GOB; A WAR H; A MOS S A War;  
A GAL S A Rum; A RUM S F Con-Bulec; F Con-BULec

TURKEY (Becker):

F Tun-NAF; A GRE-Bul; A Ser S A Gre-Bul/d/r Alb, Otb;  
F Aeg-CON; A SMY S F Aeg-Con

An interesting situation, as the power blocks do not yet seem to have solidified. Too much opportunity? Let's see what Fall 1905 brings with my mail received at work  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 1980. Press follows.

CON: It is proper and polite to ask your ally for his SCs. So Jim, may I have yours?  
Thank you!

ROMA: I don't like being stabbed, Turkey! You die!

FRANCE: England, Please keep your hands OFF my Brest. Guess you guessed wrong last fall, Naa-tan; or were you deliberately misinformed by your German buddy? What a simple little pea brain you must have! France vows NEVER to ally with Germany.

SMY: Look, Dave, no fleet.

(No dateline): I feel like I'm being mugged by the two stooges.

CON-KLINK: I see you did very well, kraut (giggle, snort, pant)

LOCH NESS: Agent OO made contact with British double agent. Exchanged info. New codeword: Landshark

MOS-CON: I never realized how pleasant the winters are here in the sunny south. If Con is so nice, could Ank be better?

JOHNNY: Star Wars is back! First chance I get, I'm going to sit thru it twice. ((Me too, if it were playing. It is advertised on TV, but ain't at the theaters yet!)) J.M.

CON-LON: Damn Russians using my Con, Krauts making squirrely deals, silent treatment from Italy and France. You're the only one I can trust now that the Arch Dupe is gone.

PARIS-WORLD: Wha's everbuddy aways pickin' on me?

LON-PAR: Say uncle?.Please?

BERNE, SWITZERLAND: The Institute for Geopolitical Studies has reconvened with a new staff. Their first paper, entitled The Rise of the East, will be published soon. A follow-up report, The Decline of the West, will follow shortly.

## Letters

DAVID PERLMUTTER

Latches Lane Apts #608, Merion, PA 19066

More on Gambling and Atlantic City.

When I went down there a second time this last weekend I paid a bit more careful attention to who plays. There are a lot of types. Some are like me, people who go there with some recreational money and have a ball blowing it. Some are the hardrollers the guys who seldom order drinks and seldom look at the bottoms of the short-dressed cocktail waitresses, like I did. These guys play for keeps and are obviously addicted. Then there are the poor people. As I said last time some do look like they have just cashed in their welfare check. There are cripples, retarded persons the whole gamut of mankind. It would seem to me that since they gamble so often they would become good. This is not the case. They all play the dumb unbeatable games like slots or wheel of fortune. I saw one very old black lady come in and for the whole time I was there (about 5 hours) she did nothing but play the dollar slot machine. Needless to say she left broke.

As for myself this time I hit paydirt. I went for one reason only, to play craps and look at the waitresses. Both I did quite well at. I won 300 big ones. Then blew a hundred of it on a "friendly" poker game. As old corn cob said "I shall return".

On other fronts let me speak up for liberals. I used to be like you John. I saw those McGovern/Kennedy/Church types as anathemas or better yet enemas to America. Yet my perspective has changed a bit. I still consider myself a conservative (I'll be working for Reagan in the fall) but now I see that everything is not black and white. I'll tell you which political figures waste our tax money. ALL OF THEM! Those "conservative" congressmen and senators are spending money like water for those pork barrel projects at home with one hand and then trying to blame the liberals with the other. I say Fuck'em all. This Primary I tried to change things. I ran for the Republican nomination for a local congress seat. I got about a thousand votes out of 67,000 cast, is that good?

I'm really loading up here ar'n't I? On the south, if you get Emhain Macha I plan to send in an article on the reconstruction, look for it. It is amazing to me that the people of the south are so silent about all the abuse they have been getting. Hollywood has for the last ten years pictured that part of the U.S. as a land of cutoff-jeaned bathing bombshell and stupid reneck crackers. From Deliverance to Dukes of Hazard the song remains the same. Y'all just don't complain enough, ya hear? Shucks I would.

Last and least I challenge you to a two man Dippy game. Take me on? ((No way. I'm in too much already without adding still more.

Why complain? Who's listening? I think it was in LIBERTERREAN that I read a quote from someone that went something like "Good men will never control government, for first of all, good men do not want to rule over their fellow man, and even if they did, there aren't enough to fill all the offices". Sure got that right. I think another idea there, that of filling Congressional offices by lot, is good. Send people to Congress like you draft them for military service or jury duty. Pick someone from the voter lists not in prison or the nuthouse or hospital, and go with them. I think it would actually be a good, practical improvement!))

J.M.

ROD WALKER

"alcala"  
1273 crest dr.  
encinitas ca 92024  
4 may 1980

Thank you for the copy of Bill Young's letter. His assessment of the situation in the past is quite accurate. The IDA has had an incredible run of bad luck in the past years in electing its officers. The organization can only function when it has officers who are willing to deal with each other rationally, on a practical basis, and with a desire to compromise in order to reach rational goals. Unfortunately, we have had a whole run of people in key positions who could not do that: Len Lakofka, Ben Grossman, Ray Heuer, Bob Hartwig, Elmer Hinton, Robert Sacks.

Faced with this sort of situation last year, Fred Davis was able to put together a coalition on the Council which began, finally, to move forward again. The same thing is happening this year, and I am endeavoring to create a similar coalition on the Council. Bill errs only in saying that Sacks has stripped me of my vote on the Council. He is trying, but he cannot do so by Presidential fiat and he will not get enough votes on the Council to do it. The result will be that the work of the Council will go on whether Sacks likes it or not.

If, however, we do wind up with a belated election for the 1980 term, the 1979 Council will have to resume its function in a caretaker capacity. In that case, however, other events may make the entire process unnecessary.

The main sentiment among Council members is divided into two camps: one, to disband the IDA entirely and turn its treasury over to one of the main hobby Custodians (the BNC has been mentioned) or to another hobby group (the NADF has been mentioned); two, to overhaul the IDA completely. These two schools of thought are non-hostile and may even be complementary. Three members of the Council (myself, Eric Verheiden, and Scott Marley) will be meeting with Jerry Jones on the 6th to discuss Eric's overhaul proposal and jointly to prepare a specific constitutional document.

Eric's proposal is to place IDA under the aegis of DW...a similar proposal was made by Jerry Jones in 1978, but this was blown out of proportion by Bob Hartwig, who wanted instead for IDA to take over DW...which in turn precipitated a whole series of crises and conflicts. Anyway, my supplementary proposal is to place IDA under the control of hobbyists who are players but who are not editors, publishers, or GMs. Eric does not like that idea, so our discussions are likely to produce a compromise of some sort. In any event, by 1981 we should see a whole new (and hopefully productive) ball game in the hobby:

- (a) The IDA really representing and helping the players.
- (b) The NADF coordinating (but not controlling) hobby services.
- (c) The CDO agencies working in friendly cooperation with their US counterparts.

(d) In general, the rise of a coalition of hobbyists who want to see useful work being done and are tired of all the petty ego trips which have plunged us into this mess in the first place.

Your distribution of Bill's letter & call for input was an act of enormous contribution to the hobby. Accept my heartfelt thanks for doing so... please let me see the results so they may be passed on to the NADF as well as the IDA.

((Rod refers to the Bill Young letter that was printed here recently. However, shortly after getting it, I sent copies to all publishers on my mailing list in case any of them were wondering what was going on in the IDA as I was. Apparently I wasn't too correct in that assumption, since there hasn't been any comment to date that I've seen except this above))



I want to take up a point you made last issue. You said in reply to John Kelley that "I think I could put up with the Klansman's stuff easier, since their stuff often seems funny or laughable". Here John I frankly think you are saying a very incorrect and dangerous thing. Every terrorist group that ever came to power did so because in the words of Wordsworth "good men did nothing". Are you saying that you would be laughing at some black being lynched? Real funny stuff I must say. Need I remind you that in 1923 the New York Times did an article on Hitler and the Nazis that said "they are a group of buffoons who like to parade and dress up. German authorities predict that will soon fade away like so many unpopular groups".

You see the fact is that subversive groups like maggots can never survive in the light. They can only exist when we ignore them and think them funny. They laughed at the nazi's. They laughed at the communists. Just keep laughing John and you won't hear them coming.

((Communists are never funny, though to wait for the Nazis to come to power today is like being an Indian sitting at the bar spending your government handout money while you wait for the buffalo to return. Lots of Nazis then, and ALL Nazis now, really are 'a group of buffoons who like to parade and dress up.' I think you would be hard pressed to show otherwise, even if you were so inclined. — *alho Gibson has written saying fascists are a real threat*))

The media ignores LaFosse, though, and many think he's pretty funny. Does that mean he really has a chance?)) *J.M.*

MARK BERCH (Diplomacy Digest)

492 Naylor Place, Alexandria, VA 22304

(excerpt)

Did you hear about the butcher who backed into a meat grinder and got a little behind in his orders?

This is Part 1 in my campaign to reduce my "air of severity". Stay tuned.

((Fine. By the way, did you meet our presidential candidate at DipCon?)) *J.M.*

BILL BECKER

810 Turwill Lane (Tornado Alley), Kalamazoo 49007

(excerpt)

Star Wars is only playing 50 miles away from me. Grand Rapids gets it first. Kalamazoo and OK City are in the same class—the sticks!

If you're going to MichiCon or DipCon in Pontiac, chances are once you get eliminated from your game you can catch it.

((Nice to know I'm thought of as such a crackerjack player. Personally, I don't think FTF is much fun; postal is the proper medium for this type of activity in my book. I'd be over in the MichiCon side playing the classics or my personal favorite, African Campaign, and laughing at the oddball D&Ders wandering around.)) *J.M.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Hmm, I see I have a little space left. How about

79 Iid

FALL, 1910 Germany (Madman): A Ber-Mun /ann.

Press:

TURKEY to ITALY: I hear I'm a cheat. Can you elaborate, please?

## VARIOUS NOTES

Ah, the summer doldrums are fully upon us. Incoming material is at a low ebb, so much so that even CANAL DREGS with its 3 10-day and 1 7-day deadline games is slowing up just a tad, giving me a break. This would still be a full issue if I had the 79Nid history done, but it is an awful lot of material to do--4 seasons down10 more to go. At the present rate, it won't make issue #66.

This weekend is DipCon weekend, so maybe someone will send me some observations on it. Even a couple of lines, literally, of your impressions would be appreciated. I am in the middle of Windfall Profit tax work at work, and only today, 17 workdays before : ~~mustxsmxix~~ our first month's worth of actual well-by-well calculations must go in, did I convince the next two bosses up the line that we can go ahead with the method that I developed to process and work it. They gave me two extra clerks (and only then somewhat grudgingly; "how about I fulltime and I parttime?"), one extra desk, no authority, and expect that somehow it will all muddle through. 17 days to feed the new info to the computer, then process the normal all-month-long business, keep everything on time, and pay no heed to details like vacations or training the new people on what the oil & gas revenue business is all about, or inquiries from partners, or changes in rules after the fact ... accounting is such a joy.

Incoming zines seem to be pretty slow too. If I had a typewriter at home that worked, or any free time at the office at all anymore, I could finish up Nid and fill the last few pages of this issue with some of the good contributions I've received from Dave Carter in Canada without even dipping into my Curtis Gibson stuff here. But as it is, I think I'd best get this out the door now, running with what I have, rather than let this material grow any more stale waiting on a double issue load. I hope things will slacken up a bit at work next month, so I can get back on track.

\*\*\*THANKS to the many of you who responded and are responding to my request for junk for Tretick. It's still coming in pretty well. I'm sending it to him in batches once a week, by the handfull. I hope he checks every one out!

Speaking of wierd envelopes, another bonanza befell me at work when I found a good 200 envelopes being thrown out that had the parent company's old name on them. Four issues worth for me! Watch for them in times to come (that is, don't throw out any 'junk mail' until you look carefully to see whose return address label is tacked on it!)

LEE KENDTER has just put out a short issue with his favorable review of EMPIRE STRIKES BACK in it. Still nuthing on it here--even the advertising has suddenly vanished. Sometimes being in a social backwater like this has its bad side. Of the 126 theaters EMPIRE is playing in, none are in greater OKC.

DICK MARTIN asks that I plug his fast game opening, which is actually Bob Osuch's who will be GGMing in Dick's RETALIATION. \$4 flat fee, I beleive. Confirm with Dick at 26 N Orchard Way, Rockville, MD 20854.

John Michalski  
Rt 10 Box 526 Q  
Moore, Okla 73165

Rod Walker    Alcala  
1273 Crest Drive  
Encinitas, CA 92024

UD